



THE BELLOWS

19th GREAT YEAR

December 18, 1997

Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc.

Vol. XIX, No. 3

WHAT	NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF PSPCS
WHERE	DES MOINES MASONIC TEMPLE 2208 S. 223rd St. (Take Midway exit #149 west off I-5..go to first stop light west of Pacific Hwy S...turn right.)
WHEN	Thursday, December 18th, 1997..7:30 till 10:00 p.m. (Doors open about 6:30 p.m.)
WHY	This is our special Christmas meeting. Very short business meeting.. Show & Tell..door prize..gift exchange..the consuming of vast quantities of food & drink (sparkling cider).

TIS THE SEASON YET AGAIN:

Yes, now that we have made it through the myriad of fall camera shows, the first report by the show committee and the animated discussion concerning our web page; it is time to pause, give thanks to whomever or whatever you choose and relax for an evening of good old fashion Christmas fun. Bring the kids, the wife, the significant other (no dogs, cats or birds please). The club will provide a large spread of food and drink selected by our hostess queen, Shirley.

Then, after a short meeting etc., it will be time for our infamous gift exchange. Remember, this is where each person who wants to take part (i.e. you can come and eat etc. and not be part of the gift exchange if you so choose) brings a wrapped photographic related gift. The gift should be worth at least ten dollars and be something you would enjoy receiving yourself.

Santa has agreeded to take time from his busy schedule to help give out gifts. Remember, you don't HAVE to sit on his lap. HO! HO! HO!

CHRISTMAS IS A NICE TIME TO GIVE:

That it is! And what better gift to give yourself then to pay you 1998 P.S.P.C.S. dues! Still only ten..I SAY TEN DOLLARS!!..the best buy around. Please send to Shirley or pay her at the meeting. Thanks!!



Member Rick Rainero is hunting for a Elmo Super-8 sound movie camera. Model # 1012 SXL. He wants it dead or alive. If you know of one, or have one for sale, contact Rick at (206) 285-0310.

Thanks to the Arizona Photographic Collectors for:
(Answer at end of news letter, Ed.)

This Month's Mystery Question :

What unusual looking camera, made by Petri Camera in 1965, used a direct-positive film loaded in a special cartridge?

**** BACKSIDE INFORMATION ****

Meeting came to order at 7:30 p.m. 55 members and 2 guests present. Dues are coming in at a fast pace. We have 19 new/renew members (5 joined at Renton and 4 at Portland show).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Report on Eugene show was that not many people came but those that did came to buy. Our interclub show had 65 tables set up, 50 of which were occupied. The Vancouver show was a good buying show with lots of people. Bob Kelly gave a report on our Internet Home Page. He says he is working on letters to museums asking if they want to be listed like links to Minox Historical Society, etc. Bill Adams suggested that the Home Page add a link to PSPCS member's sites. A motion was made that we accept Adam's proposal as presented. Motion seconded. A motion was then made to amend the original motion to state Sivertsen's suggestion that we have a listing of interested members with their website address and/or name and address and what he/she collects. Amendment seconded. Amendment passed 25 yea, 9 nay. Original motion as amended (we only have a listing of interested members with their website address and/or name, address and what they collect) passed. That means that the person using the Home Page would have to exit the Home Page to find out more about the member listed.

AUCTION

Thirteen items were auctioned. two no sales. The other 11 sold for a total of \$499.50.

PROGRAM:

Dave Studebaker told us about his trip to New England and his visit to George Eastman house and the large Rochester camera show. Dave had several fantastic finds to share. He said he had a most interesting experience.

SHOW & TELL..DOOR PRIZES:

Four members had some very interesting treasures to show. It seems that there are still interesting items to be found.

Dean Dingler won the Ultimate Spy book door prize and Dave Thoresen won the kodak truck.

Meeting adjourned to selling, swapping and cookie munching at 9:30 p.m.

SINCERE BEST HOLIDAY WISHES TO YOU & YOURS



THE BELLOWS Newsletter is published 10 times per year by Puget Sound Photographic Collector's Society, Inc. Information for The Bellows should be sent to: Bill Kimber 1413 Weathervane Dr., Tacoma, WA 98466-5712 (253) 564-4046.

Dues are \$10.00 per year and should be sent to Secretary/Treasurer Shirley Sparrow P.O. Box 70, Ronald, WA 98940 (509) 649-2477. P.S.P.C.S. members receive first notification of our spring show.

PRESIDENT: DAVE STUDEBAKER, (253) 582-4878

The following two articles are from The Photographic Historical Society and are used here with much thanks. Ed.

Watch out for those Shaving Kits in Garage Sales...

From the pages of the **Cascade Panorama**, newsletter of the Cascade PHS, comes this suspense story about Hazel and Bud Moore. The Moores live in Monroe, Louisiana, but bring their RV and assorted wares to one of the nation's largest flea markets at Canton, Texas. That's where Milan Zahorcak met and became their friend. Bud is described as an old coot and Hazel is, well, a nice lady who knows Bud well. She is also a garage sales lover. She often sees cameras but Bud always gives her a hard time when she buys one, so she is reluctant to do so. But Hazel also had a problem with Bud, his beloved old shave kit. Despite Hazel's complaining that it was moldy and unfit for humans, he wouldn't part with it. But the bottom finally dropped out of it and he allowed as how he would consider another if she found one in a garage sale. Sure enough she found one, "...beautiful leather, sitting in the driveway, and I mean it was perfect, big and roomy, and this nice tan color...that bag must have been \$40 at Neiman's." She asks the woman the price of the bag and noticed it was pretty heavy. The woman says "...how about \$5?" It was a bit more than Hazel wanted to spend but she opened it up and there was this camera in it. She told the woman that it had a camera in it. The woman replied that that was why it was so expensive. Hazel asked if she would consider selling just the bag and the woman said that the camera had been a gift from her father-in-law. It was too complicated for him to use and also proved too complicated for them to use. They would just like to get rid of it along with the bag. Hazel offered \$2 just for the bag but the lady was reluctant suggesting she buy both and sell the camera and "make a lot more money." Just then the husband comes out and says, "Tell you what. Give me \$3, take the bag and the camera and get your money back." Hazel figured Bud couldn't get too angry over \$3, and besides it was such a nice bag. When she got home the camera turned out to be a Leica CL- the entire outfit- camera, three lenses, soft case, filters, caps, everything- in mint condition. Maybe \$1500 worth of gear for three bucks! Bud apparently didn't complain about the \$3 Hazel spent for the bag.

What Ever Happened to ARGUS? A Positive Report...

Until a few months ago, the name ARGUS seemed to have long passed into photographic limbo. Having gone through the hands of many well meaning, and sometimes not so well meaning, investors over several turbulent decades, this former pillar of the American photographic industry was generally assumed to be literally-history. Then a couple of clever press releases informed the public that, far from its demise, ARGUS is once again a substantial contributor to the American photographic scene. The fact that ARGUS even existed would have probably been picked up by the photographic press, but the fact that it intended to resurrect its most famous product-the ARGUS C-3-to celebrate it's 50th anniversary-that was news! It also calls for an update on what's going on at today's ARGUS.

First, it's true, a "new" C-3 is will become a reality. A letter from ARGUS president, William J. Pearson, reports that the company has purchased of over 1000 late model C-3's which are in the process of being completely rebuilt into "new" 50th anniversary models. He also detailed the new ARGUS company. While it's still comparatively small, with sales just over \$6 million dollars last year, it is far from just a fond memory of America's photographic past. Mr. Pearson is a former executive of Concord Camera which owned the ARGUS trade name but had done little with it. In 1992, he purchased it and has since been developing it into a company he wants to be known for quality products at affordable prices. A series of handsome color sales sheets indicate he has made good strides. They list almost 50 cameras plus digital darkroom products, underwater cases and even an ARGUS Ultra brand film. While no camera in the line has a list price above \$134, the variety is extensive. There are pocket-sized 35's, several with panoramic options, and a clever stereo model that requires no special processing. A line of single-use cameras includes custom-made promotional models that collectors have already found highly desirable. These include the well known RAGU camera plus ones for Keebler crackers and Ripley's Believe It or Not. Each ARGUS model is designed with something that distinguishes it from similar competitive brands.

And, yes, a history of ARGUS is in preparation. Reading parts of the the preliminary manuscript indicates that it will contain much information not previously published.

The following article is used with thanks to Arizina Photographic Collectors Ed.

A Word about 3D images and cameras

You can enjoy brilliant 3D pictures, with easy-to-use and affordable cameras. An inexpensive Argus camera allows users to shoot 35 millimeter film with no special processing and view the images in a 3D the viewer, illuminating true stereoscopic images.

The camera has matched 28 mm lenses that place two slightly different images onto a single color print. Recommended film speeds are 200 or 400 ASA.

The matched 28mm lenses are set to focus from two feet to infinity. Fixed aperture of F/9.5 produces fine results in most situations and you will be warned when to use the built-in flash.

There also is a special film guide inside the Argus 3DH to help squeeze two images onto one negative.

Argus 3D camera kit is being sold by Audio Computer Inc., Spring Grove, Minn. for \$76.95 plus 8.95 Shipping. Call toll free for more information: 1-800-647-9273. Or, check out their site on the World Wide Web at: <http://www.acpress.com>.

******* Answer to This Month's Mystery Question**

The Fotochrome Camera looks like a camel-humped clock with a wide flat base. It has a mirror behind the lens that reflects the image



FOTOCHROME, INC. (U.S.A.)
Fotochrome Camera - c1965.

(5.5 x 8cm) down on the "color picture" film plane spread from side to side on the horizontal base of the camera. A coupled Selenium meter set the aperture on the single speed shutter lens. Made by Petri for Fotochrome, Inc., the marketers of this strange collection of photographic features.

The following edited article is used with thanks to the Cascade Photographic Historical Society.

by Mike Otto

A long time ago, before he and I were partners, Dale Lampson was off to do his Saturday morning garage sales. He lives in West Salem, isolated from the rest of civilization (or at least Salem) by the Willamette River. As he was heading out of West Salem, he noticed an estate sale, the type where you had to wait in line, and they only let a few people in at a time. He also noticed a couple of people in line who buy cameras. Certain that there was no chance for cameras there, he went into Salem and started hitting the sales.

It turned out to be a dismal day, and he was returning home empty handed. He decided to see if there had been anything at the estate sale. He walked through it, and as he was about to leave, he asked the cashier if they had sold any cameras that morning. She said no, it is still here. In fact he was standing right by it and hadn't even noticed it. It was an odd design, one not familiar to him. It was \$15. He tried talking down the price, but they were firm (although it would be half price tomorrow). In the end, as "hungry" camera buyers usually do, he bought it.

The camera was of distinctive design, a 120 rollfilm camera with a coupled rangefinder and a lens mounted in a leaf shutter on a collapsing tube. Looking through the camera books at home, it was his wife who found it first by photo in a *Wolf's Blue Book*. The Roland. It priced out at over \$2000 (this is a camera that has lost value over the years). This example differed from the one in the picture in that it did not have "Roland" silk-screened onto the front leather of the camera. Also, the Roland was built featuring the Plasmat 70/2.7 lens in Compur shutter. This camera had a nothing lens in a cheap shutter. (We've had a second Roland that was similarly equipped. Possibly the bodies were remaindered out through a discounter with the cheaper lens and shutter after the company failed).

Dale took the camera to California with him on a vacation. He attended a camera show while he was there and wore the camera around his neck. More than once he heard Japanese buyers talking in their native tongue and caught the word "Roland." In the end he traded it for an Ektra outfit, a Bell and Howell Foton and a Leica copy. All in all, a good deal for his \$15, and I always felt a good story.

